

Message Text

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SUBJECT: TEXT OF KENNEDY BILL FOR EARTHQUAKE RELIEF IN
TURKEY

REF: STATE 13395

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE AND BILL SUBMITTED
JANUARY 18 BY SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY, CHAIRMAN OF THE SUB-
COMMITTEE ON REFUGEES.

2. TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE:

"SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY, CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBCOM-
MITTEE ON REFUGEES, TODAY INTRODUCED LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE
DOLS 10 MILLION IN REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION
ASSISTANCE TO THE VICTIMS OF THE MASSIVE EARTHQUAKE IN
TURKEY TWO MONTHS AGO.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 014559

"IN INTRODUCING THE BILL, SENATOR KENNEDY SAID: 'THE
EMERGENCY PHASE OF THE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF OPERATION HAS NOW
ENDED, BUT THE REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS
FOR THE 51,000 PEOPLE MADE HOMELESS HAVE JUST BEGUN. THERE
IS NOW A NEED FOR ADDITIONAL INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN
ASSISTANCE AND DOLS 10 MILLION IS A REASONABLE UNITED STATES

CONTRIBUTION TO THIS PROGRAM.'

"SENATOR KENNEDY NOTED THAT 'THERE IS AN URGENT NEED FOR FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE RECONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING AS SOON AS WEATHER CONDITIONS PERMIT IN LATE SPRING. PLANS FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOLS AND HEALTH CENTERS AND MARKETS HAVE ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED -- ONLY THE FUNDING IS MISSING.

"THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES HAVE ALREADY EXPRESSED THEIR SYMPATHY AND CONCERN FOR THE EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS OF TURKEY BY PROVIDING SOME DOLS 3.6 MILLION IN EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE. BUT, AS IN OTHER DISASTER SITUATIONS, THE REHABILITATION AND RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS ALSO DESERVE OUR SUPPORT."

3. TEXT OF BILL:

"BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, THAT THIS ACT MAY BE CITED AS THE 'TURKEY RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ACT OF 1977.'

"SEC. 2. CHAPTER 9 OF PART I OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961 IS AMENDED BY ADDING AT THE END THEREOF THE FOLLOWING NEW SECTION:

"SEC. 495B. TURKEY RELIEF AND REHABILITATION.--(A) THE PRESIDENT IS AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, ON SUCH TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS HE MAY DETERMINE, FOR THE RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ACT OF 1977.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 014559

LIEF AND REHABILITATION OF THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN VICTIMIZED BY THE RECENT EARTHQUAKES IN TURKEY. THERE IS AUTHORIZED TO BE APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION DOLS 10,000,000 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1977, WHICH AMOUNT IS AUTHORIZED TO REMAIN AVAILABLE UNTIL EXPENDED. ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE PROVIDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY AND GENERAL AUTHORITY OF SECTION 491 OF THIS ACT. OBLIGATIONS INCURRED PRIOR TO THE ENACTMENT OF THIS SECTION AGAINST OTHER APPROPRIATIONS OR ACCOUNTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF TURKEY MAY BE CHARGED TO THE APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION.

"(B) ASSISTANCE MADE AVAILABLE UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PRACTICABLE THROUGH UNITED STATES VOLUNTARY RELIEF AGENCIES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS.

"(C) IN ORDER TO LIMIT THE EXTENT OF DEATHS, IN-JURIES, AND DESTRUCTION IN FUTURE EARTHQUAKES, ASSISTANCE

PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION WHICH IS USED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING IN TURKEY SHALL, TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE, BE USED FOR HOUSING WHICH IS CONSTRUCTED OF SEISMIC RESISTANT MATERIALS OR WHICH WILL OTHERWISE MINIMIZE THE DANGER OF INJURY TO OCCUPANTS DURING FUTURE EARTHQUAKES; AND THE PRESIDENT SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY TO PROMOTE THE USE OF SUCH MATERIALS.

"(D) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, THE AMOUNT AUTHORIZED TO BE APPROPRIATED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION MAY BE USED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSES SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION. THE AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN SECTION 610 (A) OF THIS ACT MAY NOT BE USED TO TRANSFER FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE UNDER THIS SECTION."

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 014559

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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